

Finding Aid of 33MSS-117, Icarus International and First Flight Rotary “Monument to a Century of Flight” Time Capsule Records, 2001 – 20005

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[Outer Banks History Center](#)



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Descriptive Summary

Repository: Outer Banks History Center

Creator: Icarus International and First Flight Rotary

Title: 33MSS-117, Icarus International and First Flight Rotary
“Monument To a Century of Flight” Time Capsule Records,
2001—2005

Language of the Materials: Materials in English.

Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Outer Banks History Center.

Abstract: December 17, 2003 marked the 100-year anniversary of the invention of powered flight by Orville and Wilbur Wright at Kill Devil Hills on North Carolina’s Outer Banks. Aviation and history enthusiasts around the world celebrated the centennial at the National Park Service’s Wright Brothers National Memorial spearheaded also by the U. S. Centennial of Flight Commission and North Carolina First Flight Centennial Commission.

In the years surrounding the centennial crescendo, many special projects and events added to the commemoration. One enduring project in the adjacent community of Kitty Hawk, at the Aycock Brown Welcome Center, is the addition of a dramatic, outdoor sculptural site to the Outer Banks landscape, the “Monument to a Century of Flight.” Hosted by the non-profit, Icarus International, the monument heralds the connection between creativity and invention. Ten years in the making, the project garnered local, national, and international involvement. The building of the monument, and an endowment for its perpetual care, were funded through a combination of public and private sponsorships and donations. From its inception, planners intended to incorporate a time capsule into the design of the monument containing thoughts and memorabilia from the people of 2003 to be gifted to the people of 2103. The First Flight Chapter of Rotary International coordinated the project while the Outer Banks History Center provided technical assistance.

This collection consists of one pamphlet box containing 13 folders, exclusively in paper format. An item-level inventory of all contents of the time capsule is supplemented by planning committee and project records, artist's renderings, dedication memorabilia, clippings, and ephemera. The inventory is cross-referenced in two ways, box-by-box and by donating organization.

Extent: 13 folders, approximately .1 cu. ft.

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Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

These materials are available to researchers with the condition that any published work that may result from such research will give appropriate credit to the Outer Banks History Center.

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Preferred Citation

33MSS-117, Icarus International and First Flight Rotary "Monument to a Century of Flight" Time Capsule Records, 2001—2005, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC, USA.

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Acquisitions Information

Donated by Icarus International and the First Flight Chapter, Rotary International

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Processing Information

Processed by K. Lisbeth “KaeLi” Schurr

Finding Aid by K. Lisbeth “KaeLi” Schurr

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Historical Note

December 17, 2003 marked the 100-year anniversary of the invention of powered flight by Orville and Wilbur Wright at Kill Devil Hills on North Carolina’s Outer Banks. Aviation and history enthusiasts around the world celebrated the centennial at the National Park Service’s Wright Brothers National Memorial spearheaded also by the U. S. Centennial of Flight Commission and North Carolina First Flight Centennial Commission.

In the years surrounding the centennial crescendo, many special projects and events added to the commemoration. One enduring project in the adjacent community of Kitty Hawk, at the Aycock Brown Welcome Center, is the addition of a dramatic, outdoor sculptural site to the Outer Banks landscape, the Monument to a Century of Flight. Heralding the connection between creativity and invention, and ten years in the making, the project garnered local, national and international involvement. The building of the monument, and an endowment for its perpetual care, were funded through a combination of public and private sponsorships and donations.

Coordinated by Icarus International, Inc., a non-profit founded in 1996 to encourage flight-related artistic expression, the monument was intended as “an enduring legacy to the history, beauty and mystery of flight.” It would recognize ‘significant accomplishments and milestones in aviation history and honor the soaring spirit of the men and women whose aspirations spoke, and continue to speak, so clearly of human potential.’ The project was endorsed by the U. S. Centennial of Flight Commission, the North Carolina First Flight Centennial Commission, the First Flight Society, the Dare County Board of Commissioners, the Town of Kitty Hawk, the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, and countless aviation enthusiasts.

Beginning in 1993, Icarus International hosted annual flight-themed poetry competitions, art shows, and literary journals to raise awareness of the approaching centennial. In 2003, Icarus International participated in a number of special projects, namely the week-long “Women in Aviation” festival, and “100 Years, 100 Works” art show at the Roanoke Island Festival Park Art Gallery.

The vision of Icarus International from the beginning was for the monument to be a place of peace and contemplation, so artists were as critical to its execution as were construction contractors. The conceptual design called for an orbit of fourteen wing-shaped stainless steel pylons, ascending in height from 10 feet to 20 feet, depicting man's journey in a single century

from earthbound to the moon and beyond. The orbit's extent would be 120 feet, the distance traveled by Wilbur and Orville Wright in that historic first flight on December 17, 1903.

Brainchild of Outer Banks artist Glenn Eure, the monument was forged and fabricated by famed sculptors, Hanna Jubran and Jodi Hollnagel Jubran, professors at East Carolina University School of Art. Pylons were fitted with granite faces, each of which was then adorned with Glenn Eure illustrations of 100 significant aviation accomplishments that chronicle the course and impact of aviation in its first century. Those achievements were compiled by Dr. Tom Crouch, senior curator of the Division of Aeronautics at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, and Steve Alterman, President of the Cargo Airline Association.

Fund raising for the monument incorporated permanent remembrances into the stone and metal of the monument, and provided a way for all who wished to participate. A "Buy a Brick" program generated thousands of dollars and a range of inscriptions from memorials to departed loved ones to futuristic, inspirational messages directed at children yet to be born.

Groundbreaking for the monument was held on June 17, 2003. Less than a year later on November 8, 2003, on an appropriately windy day—consistent winds being one of the essential features that brought the Wright brothers to the region—over 600 people attended the monument dedication.

From its inception, planners were determined to incorporate into the design of the monument a time capsule containing thoughts and memorabilia from the people of 2003 to be gifted to the people of 2103. The First Flight Chapter of Rotary International coordinated the project. Funding from The Bank of Currituck was secured.

At the request of the First Flight Rotary, the Outer Banks History Center provided curatorial and technical expertise. A committee of the First Flight Rotary hired project archivist, Luis Delfino from Rodanthe and all parties worked collaboratively to contact Rotary chapters throughout eastern North Carolina and other targeted organizations seeking memorabilia for the time capsule. Outer Banks History Center curator, KaeLi Spiers directed the development of criteria for submissions, the selection of archival containers, and oversight of the project archivist. The center also served as the collection point for content submissions.

Monument sculptor, Hanna Jubran, and curator Spiers researched state-of-the-art time capsule construction. The chamber where the time capsule would be entombed would need to be hermetically sealed.

On April 13, 2005, a public dedication was held at the Aycock Brown Welcome Center and the time capsule was installed near the granite entrance marker to the monument. Delfino and Spiers were among the speakers at the dedication.

The Outer Banks History Center will serve as the repository for documentation about the time capsule.

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Collection Overview

This collection consists of one pamphlet box containing 13 folders, exclusively in paper format. An item-level inventory of all contents of the time capsule is supplemented by planning committee and project records, artist's renderings, dedication memorabilia, clippings, and ephemera. The inventory is cross-referenced in two ways, box-by-box and by donating organization.

Collection Arrangement

This collection has three series: Time Capsule Contents; Time Capsule Project; and, Monument to a Century of Flight, Icarus International, and the First Flight Centennial.

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Online Catalog Headings

These and related materials may be found under the following headings in online catalogs.

Subject Terms

Aeronautics - - North Carolina - - Kill Devil Hills - - Centennial Celebrations
Flight - - Centennial Celebrations
Icarus International
Rotary Club of First Flight (Kill Devil Hills, N.C.)
Time Capsules

Geographic Locations

Kitty Hawk (N.C.)
Monument to a Century of Flight (Kitty Hawk, N.C.)

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Related Collections

Additional information on topics found in this collection may be found in the Manuscript and Archives Reference System (MARS): **<http://mars.archives.ncdcr.gov/BasicSearch.aspx>**.

Ephemera collection, 1028.631.1, Glenn Eure's Ghost Fleet/Icarus.

33SER-828, Icarus [poetry journal], 1994-1999.

Container List

33GRF-82 Icarus International and First Flight Rotary "Monument to a Century of Flight" Time Capsule Records, 2001—2005 (1 box, 11 folders)

Folder 1:1.1 Finding Aid

Time Capsule Contents

Folder 1:2.1 Guide to Contents, box-by-box

Folder 1:2.2 Guide to Contents, by donating organization

Folder 1:2.3 Guide to Contents, detailed inventory, item-by-item

Folder 1:2.4 Statistics & Trivia about the contents

Time Capsule Project

Folder 1:3.1 Project process files; planning committee meeting minutes and notes; press release

Folder 1:3.2 Artist's renderings

Folder 1:3.3 Research and technical specifications Re: construction and contents

Folder 1:3.4 Memos, submission forms, mailing lists from the appeal by the First Flight Rotary for content submissions

Folder 1:3.5 Project archivist's work

Folder 1:3.6 Dedication program, photographs, ephemera

Monument to a Century of Flight, Icarus International and the First Flight Centennial

Folder 1:4.1 Clippings

Folder 1:4.2 Ephemera